

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CU-04 CIAE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12

NEA-10 GAC-01 TRSE-00 MBFR-03 SAJ-01 IO-12 OIC-04

ACDA-19 OMB-01 RSR-01 /148 W
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5908
INFO SECDEF WASHDC
ALL CSCE CAPITALS 184
USMISSION BERLIN

C O N F I D E N T I A L HELSINKI 895

VIENNA FOR USDEL MBFR

E. O. 11652 : GDS

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: CSCE: APRIL 3 PLENARY MEETING ON WORK PROGRAM

1. SUMMARY. INFORMAL WORK OUTLINE SUGGESTED BY MALTA SERVED AS FOCAL POINT FOR DISCUSSION OF NEED TO DEVELOP RATIONAL RHYTHM OF ACTIVITY TO MEET BURGEONING WORK LOAD. MAJORITY SENTIMENT FAVORED (A) FOURTH ROUND AS LAST IN MPT; (B) MAINTENANCE IN PRINCIPLE OF MIDSUMMER TARGET DATE FOR INITIAL STAGE OF CONFERENCE, WITH FINAL DECISION AND SPECIFIC DATE TO BE DETERMINED IN LIGHT OF PROGRESS; (C) CONSIDERATION FOR THE PLIGHT OF SMALL DELEGATIONS IN TRYING TO BE REPRESENTED ON PROLIFERATING WORKING AND DRAFTING GROUPS, BUT RECOGNITION THAT OVERLAPPING LIKELY TO BE NECESSARY; (D) AGREEMENT TO CONVENEPOLISH- PROPOSED WORKING GROUP ON FINANCIAL AND TECHNICAL MATTERS ON 25 APRIL AND (E) DECISION TO GIVE BASKET 4 (CONFERENCE FOLLOW- ON) CURSORY TREATMENT ON APRIL 5. SOVIET AMB MENDELEVICH BLUNTLY STRESSED THAT WORK SHOULD NOT BE SUBORDINATE TO SIZE OF DELEGATION, BUT DELEGATION ADAPTED TO WORK. FRANCE,
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CANADA AND US URGED THAT ROUND IV BE LAST IN MPT WITH
CONFERENCE IN LATE JUNE. END SUMMARY

2. PACE OF WORK. SWITZERLAND (JOINTED BY BELGIUM, MALTA,
NETHERLANDS, PORTUGAL AND TURKEY) OBJECTED TO BEING
HUSTLED. SMALLER DELEGATIONS SHOULD NOT BE PUT
AT DISADVANTAGE BY DEMANDS POSED BY PARTICIPATION IN
PROLIFERATING MPT WORKING GROUPS. PRESENT PRACTICES
SHOULD NOT CONTINUE IN ROUND IV. MOREOVER, WORKING
GROUPS SHOULD REPORT PERIODICALLY TO PLENARY IN ORDER
TO INSURE PARTICIPANTS HAVE OVERALL VIEW. FRENCH AMB
ANDRE MADE POLITE BOW TO SWISS CONCERNS BUT SAW NEED
FOR SOME OVERLAPPING, I. E., CONCURRENT MEETINGS OF
FINANCIAL/ TECHNICAL GROUP AND WORKING GROUP DEALING
WITH AGENDA ITEMS. HE DOUBTED SERIOUSLY FEASIBILITY
OF HARRASSED WORKING GROUPS WOULD OF COURSE HAVE TO
SUBMIT DRAFT TEXTS. AMB MENDELEVICH BLUNTLY SAID
SMALLER DELEGATIONS SHOULD BE PREPARED TO ACCELERATE
PACE OF WORK AND INCREASE SIZE OF THEIR DELEGATIONS.
(COMMENT: HIS PITCH WAS HEAVY- HANDED BUT HE PROBABLY
CALCULATED THAT IT WAS BETTER TO HIT NOW, AND HOPE TO
DISPOSE OF THE QUESTION.)

3. WORK OUTLINE. DELEGATIONS GENERALLY ENDORSED IN VARYING
DEGREES MALTESE EFFORT TO GUIDE WORK IN ROUND IV TOWARD
COMPLETION IN 4 TO 5 WEEKS. PORTUGAL AND NETHERLANDS
QUESTIONED, HOWEVER, RECOMMENDATION THAT AFTER FOUR WEEKS
OF ROUND IV WE COULD EXPECT TO BE READY FOR A CONFERENCE
IN LATE JUNE, IMPLYING JUNE PERHAPS NOT REASONABLE TARGET DATE.
PORTUGAL STRESSED THAT THE QUALITY OF
PREPARATION SHOULD BE FIRST PRIORITY AND SPECIFIC DATE
SECOND. FRANCE, CANADA AND US TOOK LEAD TO URGE STRONGLY
THAT ROUND IV BE LAST IN MPT SO THAT CONFERENCE COULD
CONVENE TOWARD END OF JUNE.

4. FINANCIAL AND TECHNICAL WORKING GROUPS. PLENARY
ACCEPTED BY CONSENSUS AFTERNOON OF 25 APRIL AS DATE FOR
FIRST MEETING POLISH PROPOSED FINANCIAL/ TECHNICAL
WORKING GROUP (HESLINKI 0826).

5. COORDINATING COMMITTEE. MALTA, ROMANIA AND SWITZER-
LAND FAVORED INPRINCIPLE FRENCH- SPONSORED COORDINATING
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COMMITTEE FOR SECOND STAGE OF CSCE BUT SAW NO NEED FOR
DECISION BEFORE LATER STAGES OF ROUND IV.

6. BASKET IV (CONFERENCE FOLLOW- ON). PLENARY AGREED
TO ROMANIAN PROPOSAL THAT WORKING GROUP DISCUSS BASKET IV
ON 5 APRIL; (COMMENT: MENDELEVICH HAS INFORMALLY MADE
IT CLEAR THIS IS PRO FORMA MINIMAL TREATMENT BEFORE
BREAK, AND HE EXPECTS NOTHING FROM THE WEST AT THIS
TIME ON THIS SUBJECT.)
WHITE

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